



YRBSS

National Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Trends in the Prevalence of Marijuana, Cocaine, and Other Illegal Drug Use

What Is the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)?

The national YRBS monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The national YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	Changes from 1991 – 2001 ¹	Change from 1999 – 2001 ²
Lifetime marijuana use (Ever used marijuana.)							
31.3 (±2.9) ³	32.8 (±3.2)	42.4 (±3.0)	47.1 (±2.9)	47.2 (±2.5)	42.4 (±1.9)	Increased, 1991 – 1997 Decreased, 1997 – 2001	Decreased
Current marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)							
14.7 (±2.1)	17.7 (±2.4)	25.3 (±1.8)	26.2 (±2.2)	26.7 (±2.5)	23.9 (±1.5)	Increased, 1991 – 1997 No change, 1997 – 2001	No change
Lifetime cocaine use (Ever tried any form of cocaine e.g., powder, “crack,” or “freebase.”)							
5.9 (±0.9)	4.9 (±0.8)	7.0 (±1.2)	8.2 (±1.1)	9.5 (±1.4)	9.4 (±1.2)	Increased, 1991 – 2001	No change
Current cocaine use (Used cocaine one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)							
1.7 (±0.5)	1.9 (±0.4)	3.1 (±0.8)	3.3 (±0.5)	4.0 (±0.7)	4.2 (±0.7)	Increased, 1991 – 2001	No change
Lifetime inhalant use (Ever sniffed glue or breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high.)							
NA ⁴	NA	20.3 (±2.0)	16.0 (±1.3)	14.6 (±1.7)	14.7 (±1.7)	Decreased, 1995 – 1999 No change, 1999 – 2001	No change
Lifetime illegal steroid use (Ever used illegal steroids.)							
2.7 (±0.4)	2.2 (±0.5)	3.7 (±0.6)	3.1 (±0.5)	3.7 (±0.7)	5.0 (±0.5)	No change, 1991 – 1993 Increased, 1993 – 2001	Increased

¹ Based on linear and quadratic trend analyses using a logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade.

² Based on T-test analyses.

³ 95% confidence interval.

⁴ Not available.

Where can I find more information?

More information about the YRBSS is available at www.cdc.gov/yrbss or call (888)231-6405.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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